

Remarks

Claims 2-13, 15-18, 20-36 and 38-48 are present in the application. Claims 2-4, 15-18, 20-21, 38 and 41 have been amended and claims 1, 14, 19 and 37 have been canceled. Claims 2, 37 and 48 are independent. Favorable consideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

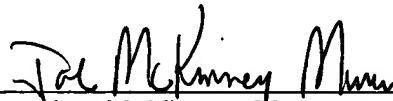
In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Matthew T. Shanley, Registration No. 47,074 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) [The system as recited in claim 1] A system for rupturing an encapsulated adhesive contained in sheet media, comprising:

a feeder for the sheet media; and

an activation device for releasing the encapsulated adhesive as the sheet media is moved past the device by the feeder, wherein the activation device is an activator blade past which the feeder moves the sheet media along a travel path, the activator blade being fixed in position relative to the path of the sheet media.

3. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [1] 2, further comprising a support surface adjacent the activator blade, the travel path passing between the activator blade and the support surface.

4. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [1] 2, wherein the support surface is a roller.

15. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [14] 5, further comprising a printer for placing indicia on the sheet material, the activator blade being located between the printer and the cutter.

16. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [1] 2, further comprising a printer, the printer being located downstream of the activator blade and being adjacent to the travel path.

17. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [1] 2, further comprising a printer, the printer being located upstream of the activator blade and being adjacent to the travel path.

18. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [1] 2, wherein the activation device is at least one crushing roller for rupturing and thereby releasing the encapsulated media.

20. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [19] 2, wherein the activator blade extends across at least half of a widthwise direction of the sheet media and wherein the activator blade is at a fixed angle relative to the travel path.

21. (Amended) The system as recited in claim [19] 2, wherein the feeder moves the sheet media along a travel path, the at least one crushing roller being located on one side of the travel path and the activator blade being located on an opposed side of the travel path.

38. (Amended) [The method as recited in claim 37] A method for rupturing an encapsulated adhesive contained in sheet media, comprising the steps of:

providing a sheet media;

feeding the sheet media along a travel path;

passing the sheet media against an activation device;

rupturing the encapsulated adhesive as the sheet media moves past the activation device, wherein the activation device includes an activator blade; and

[wherein the method further comprises the step of]spreading the adhesive after rupture thereof with the activator blade.

41. (Amended) The method as recited in claim [37] 38, wherein the activation device includes at least one crushing roller, the method further comprises the step of rotating the at least one crushing roller about an axis.

Claim 48 has been added.